

Appl. No.: 09/899,645

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Page 2Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that bridges pages 40-41 of the specification with the following paragraph:

When expressed in maize, PTE can serve the same function to break up the acyl-CoA substrates of β -oxidation. The normal flux of fatty acids through peroxisomes would then be re-equilibrated into other cellular pools. At least a portion of these fatty acids are expected to be directed to the synthesis of TAG in the ER. A number of other genes can also be used in combination with PTE. They include the acyl-CoA oxidase and the multifunctional protein type II. These proteins exert metabolic control on β -oxidation and peroxisome abundance (Chang *et al.* (1999) *J. Cell Sci.* 112:1579-1590). Cosuppression of the genes encoding one or both of these proteins can inhibit fatty acid β -oxidation and increase the fatty acid flux toward the biosynthesis of TAG resulting in maize kernels with an increased content of oil.

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